

**EAST LONGMEADOW HIGH SCHOOL  
SOCIAL STUDIES PROGRAM OF STUDIES**

**HONORS - UNITED STATES HISTORY I**

| GRADE | CREDITS |
|-------|---------|
| 9, 10 | 4       |

*Honors - United States History I* is a rigorous course of considerable complexity and intensity that covers approximately three hundred years of U.S. History. The course focus begins with a brief overview of the development of Europe's "modern era" and how these changes would eventually lead to the birth of the United States. Furthermore, the American history component of the course is studied through the historical period of the *New Industrial Age* of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, with a particular view of how world events have impacted the development of the United States.

The course emphasizes relevant factual knowledge and synthesis of material while making use of primary sources, substantial secondary readings, and other historical materials.

The student will be tested frequently on independent reading assignments as well as on the material presented in class. The tests will include objective and essay sections. Research papers may also be assigned.

Varying academic activities will also be used including substantial resources from the internet.

Basic Text: *The American Journey* and various online sources

**UNITED STATES HISTORY I**

| GRADE | CREDITS |
|-------|---------|
| 9, 10 | 4       |

*United States History I* is a one-semester course, primarily for ninth grade students.

The curriculum covers U.S. history, from the rise of European influence, through the Colonial period and the founding of the United States. The course then turns its focus to the development of the United States through the *New Industrial Age* of the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The emphasis is on determining contributions to the development and relationship of long term principles and forces that tie the various eras of history together. There is also considerable emphasis on geographic knowledge.

Grades are determined largely by completion of regular homework assignments and by testing conducted subsequent to each one or two chapters of material. Occasional "surprise" quizzes are employed, and either individual or group projects or reports may be assigned. Class participation is also considered.

Text: *A History of the United States*, Boorstin & Kelley and various online sources.

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT UNITED STATES HISTORY

| GRADE  | CREDITS |
|--------|---------|
| 10, 11 | 8       |

Prerequisite: Recommended grades in previous history courses: A grade of *B-* or higher in *Honors - U.S. History*, a grade of *B* or higher in *U.S. History I / II*, a grade of *B+* or higher in *Essentials U.S. History I*

Some prerequisite summer activities may be required.

*Advanced Placement U.S. History* is designed primarily to prepare the student for the Advanced Placement Examination given in May. The student will review American History from the Colonial period to the Civil War. A major emphasis, however, is on a mastery of the facts and themes of American History from the post Reconstruction period to the present.

The student will be tested frequently on independent reading assignments as well as on the material presented in class. The tests will include objective and essay sections. Research papers may also be assigned.

In May, we administer the Advanced Placement Examination as a part of the College Board's Advanced Placement Program. It is expected that all students will take the examination; however, since the testing fee is approximately \$80, it is not required.

Text: *American Pageant*, Bailey and Kennedy and various online sources.

## U.S. HISTORY II

| GRADE  | CREDITS |
|--------|---------|
| 10, 11 | 4       |

Prerequisite: Recommended grades in previous history courses: successful completion of *Honors - U.S. History*, *U.S. History I*

*U.S. History II* is designed for the college-bound student interested in an in-depth study of American history. Lectures and class discussions will include the development of the significant political, economic, social and cultural themes in the American experience with emphasis on the chronology from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century emergence of the U.S. as a world power, to the present. Material to be covered will also investigate the role of the United States in global affairs and the study of world history as it relates to America's foreign policy.

Testing will stress both the mastery of factual information and the interpretation of historical themes. Test will contain both objective and essay sections. Research papers and outside readings of primary and secondary sources will be expected of the student.

Text: *A History of the United States*, Boorstin & Kelley and various online sources.

## HONORS UNITED STATES HISTORY II

| GRADE  | CREDITS |
|--------|---------|
| 10, 11 | 4       |

Prerequisite: Recommended grades in previous history courses: A grade of *B-* or higher in *Honors - U.S. History I*, a grade of *B* or higher in *U.S. History I*

*Honors - U.S. History II* is a detailed and complex study of American history from the period of late 19<sup>th</sup> century imperialism through the modern-day. There will be an emphasis on the mastery of the facts and themes of American history from the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> century to the present. Independent readings may be required and various student evaluations will be employed.

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT MODERN EUROPEAN HISTORY

| GRADE  | CREDITS |
|--------|---------|
| 11, 12 | 8       |

Prerequisite: Recommended grades in previous history courses: A grade of *B-* or higher in *Honors - U.S. History*, a grade of *B* or higher in *U.S. History I / II*

Some prerequisite summer activities may be required.

*AP Modern European History* is a rigorous full-year course of study designed to challenge qualified high school students with subject material covered in a manner normally found in a college curriculum.

The course covers a period from ancient times to the present, with emphasis on what is considered "modern" - the history of Europe from the Renaissance. Theories on society, government, economics and religion are studied. It is expected that students take the Advanced Placement Examination in the spring. The testing fee is approximately \$80.

Students are graded on the basis of test and quiz scores with heavy emphasis on writing. Participation in class discussions is expected.

Text: *History of the Modern World*, R.R. Palmer and Joel Colton

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT PSYCHOLOGY

| GRADE  | CREDITS |
|--------|---------|
| 11, 12 | 6       |

Prerequisite: Recommended grades in previous history courses: A grade of *B-* or higher in *Honors - U.S. History*, a grade of *B* or higher in *U.S. History I / II*

Some prerequisite summer activities may be required.

Advanced Placement Psychology is a full year course. (84 minutes first semester, and 41 minutes second semester) This course introduces students to the systematic and scientific study of the behavior and mental processes of human beings and other animals. Students will be exposed to the psychological facts and principles within the field of psychology. This course is geared towards students who are willing and able to perform college level work while in high school.

Students will be evaluated on the basis of their performance on tests, quizzes, outside readings and research, class participation and a final project. There will be a heavy emphasis on writing and students will be expected to write using the APA format. Students are expected to take the Advanced Placement Psychology examination in May.

The testing fee is approximately \$80.

Text: *Psychology* - Myers, David

## ADVANCED PLACEMENT UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS

| GRADE  | CREDITS |
|--------|---------|
| 11, 12 | 4       |

Prerequisite: Recommended grades in previous history courses: A grade of *B-* or higher in *Honors - U.S. History*, a grade of *B* or higher in *U.S. History I / II*

Some prerequisite summer activities may be required.

Course objectives for *A.P. U.S. Government and Politics* should include a significant level of abstract thinking. This is considered as an introductory college level course and course work will reflect this. In addition, students will need to master substantive theories that explain events, actions, and connections, as well as policy outcomes. The course is designed to give students a critical perspective on politics and the government.

The student will be tested frequently on independent reading assignments as well as on the material presented in class. The tests will include objective and essay sections. Research papers may also be assigned.

In May, we administer the Advanced Placement Examination as a part of the College Board's Advances Placement Program. It is expected that all students will take the examination. The testing fee is approximately \$80.

Text: *Government in America* - Edwards, Wattenberg, Lineberry.

## **HONORS ANTHROPOLOGY**

| GRADE  | CREDITS |
|--------|---------|
| 11, 12 | 4       |

*Honors Anthropology* is an elective designed to give the students an introductory background in cultures other than our own. It also seeks to provide a basic understanding of the scientific origins of the human species.

The course is broken down into two sections: physical anthropology, which deals with evolutionary theories and the development of the different races, and cultural anthropology, which studies various customs, family groupings and economic structures.

Students are graded on the basis of test and quiz scores as well as a term paper and in-class writing assignments.

Text: *Anthropology*, William Haviland

## **WORLD HISTORY**

| GRADE  | CREDITS |
|--------|---------|
| 11, 12 | 4       |

Successful completion of U.S. History I and II requirement

The description should include the following:

The course will primarily cover the period from the post Roman Empire. Topics will include: the Middle Ages, East Asia, the Renaissance, Expansion and Absolutism, Revolutions in Europe and the Americas, Industrialism and Nationalism, and the 20<sup>th</sup> Century.

A variety of assessments will be used to evaluate understanding of these themes. The student will be tested frequently on independent reading assignments as well as on the material presented in class. The tests will include objective and essay sections. Research papers may also be assigned.

## AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDIES

| GRADE  | CREDITS |
|--------|---------|
| 11, 12 | 4       |

Prerequisite: Students must complete and pass U.S. History 1 and U.S. History 2

African American Studies is a course designed for students interested in a comprehensive study of African American history beyond the highlights offered in a U.S. History class. In addition, instruction and class discussions will include the examination of the impact of the economic, social, and political forces that shape the African American experience from the trans-Atlantic slave trade of the Colonial Period through the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Furthermore, students will examine, analyze, and interpret the state of race relations in America and appraise the value of understanding and appreciating the diversity of human affairs.

Assessment will stress both the mastery of factual information and the interpretation of economic, social, political, and historical themes. A variety of assessments will be used to evaluate understanding of these themes and tests will contain both objective and essay sections. Independent work, such as research papers and outside readings of primary and secondary sources will be expected of the student.

Text: Prentice Hall African American History: 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition, by Darlene Clark Hone, William C. Hine, and Stanley Harrold

## CONTEMPORARY ISSUES

| GRADE  | CREDITS |
|--------|---------|
| 11, 12 | 4       |

Prerequisite: A passing grade in a *United States History* course sequence.

*Contemporary Issues* is a one semester course that will investigate recent current events for both international impact as well as their influence on American culture and society. The geographic and historical framework of current events will also be examined.

Topics that are covered will be dictated by specific current events. Domestic issues such as crime, poverty, environment, and politics may be covered as well as global issues that will shape America's future.

Students will be evaluated on the basis of objective, subjective and open-ended tests and quizzes. A research paper may also be required.

Text: *The Week Magazine*

## PSYCHOLOGY

| GRADE  | CREDITS |
|--------|---------|
| 11, 12 | 4       |

Psychology is a social science that studies human behavior. This course covers most of the subjects found in an introductory college course.

The following topics will be covered: Introduction of Terms, the Scientific Method, Biological Basis of Behavior, Methods of Learning, Memory and Cognition, Development, Personality, Intelligence, and Abnormal Behavior. The following topics will focus on Social Psychology: Social Influence, Social Perception, Prosocial Behavior, and Aggression.

Students may be evaluated on class participation; objective, subjective and open-ended tests and quizzes on materials presented in class and assigned reading. An outside novel and/or a research paper may also be assigned.

Texts: *Understanding Psychology* - Kasschau, R.  
*Exploring Social Psychology* - Baron, R., Byrne, D., & Johnson, B.